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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Mines in Ventspils Outer Harbor	DATE DISTR.	29 June 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The harbor at Ventspils can accommodate vessels with a draft up to 30 feet, but the channel leading to Ventspils Harbor is only 18 feet 6 inches deep.
2. The Germans mined the approaches to the bar with concrete, cement (sic) mines, which are embedded in the bottom of the channel.
3. The Soviets have not as yet succeeded in clearing these mines, since they have no apparatus which is able to locate them; ordinary mine detectors do not react to the concrete casings.
4. The Soviets attempted to dredge the channel in 1950, but they lost two dredgers because of the mines.
5. Any attempts to dredge the channel have been abandoned until either suitable equipment to locate the mines is available, or until time makes the mines harmless.

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